

July 15, 2018

Financial Update from our Generosity Coordinator

Greetings all,

It's summertime, and the living is easy and yes, the weather is soooo HOT!!! Hope that you are all enjoying family reunions, vacations, resting and relaxing and whatever your heart's desire.

I have had the opportunity to visit some amazing churches lately, and I am so grateful for the hospitality. Your overwhelming support demonstrates that these visits were, and are so very important. "THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH".



I would like to say "THANK YOU" to all those churches who have extended an invitation for me to visit. I look forward to seeing you in the very near future. If you have NOT requested a visit, please do so. There is much work to be done and I look forward to us doing it together.

Thru your OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission) dollars, we continue to change lives throughout the world. We work alongside more than 200 mission partners. We labor ceaselessly to fight injustice, in the United States and abroad. We sustain and develop church leaders, pastors, and our local churches to live their faith in exciting new ways. We still believe in a still speaking God that is all-loving and inclusive. With your support, we grow a just and peaceful world.

The graph below will help you to see where we are and where we really need to be.

Your generosity will continue to allow us to be "The Church of Firsts". Together, we are changing lives. Thank you for your partnership. Please

allow me to help you reach your goals.

As we journey.....Together

Carrole Moss Generosity Coordinator 860-655-6254 cmoss@secucc.org



Annual Meeting Voting Report

The following measures were voted upon during our Annual Meeting in June.

- Vote to amend the by-laws for our fiscal year to October 1-September 30th passed.
- Amendment to By-laws about the number of BOD members- sent back to the BOD for more research
- Vote to approve the slate passed
- Vote on the UCC national By laws changes was voted down.
- Voted to approve a 1/1/2018-9/30/2018- 2018 Fiscal Budget
- Voted to approve 10/1/2018-9/30/2019- 2019 Fiscal Budget



Prayer List

We are continuing the process of praying for authorized ministers,

congregations, and ministry groups throughout 2018. We encourage you to include these prayer requests in your local church newsletter, share them with your prayer circle, and include them in your own prayers. Click here to download the entire 2018 prayer list.

Week of July 16

- First Congregational UCC; Birmingham, Alabama
- David Brown
- D. Houston Hall
- Shelli Poe
- Phillip Price
- Paige Pearson Wimberly

Week of July 23

- Forgiving Heart Church; Columbus, GA
- Diantha Baker Brown
- Randy Hammer
- Thomas Query
- Ed Sunday Winters
- Patricia Keeler

Week of July 30

- Church of the Savior; Alpharetta, Georgia
- Lacey Brown
- George Hartz
- Gerald Kummer
- Will Rabert, Jr

Churches in Transition

Garden of Grace, Columbia, SC; Emmanuel, Greenville, SC; First Congregational, Birmingham, AL; Pilgrimage, Marietta, GA; Sandy Creek, Lafayette, AL; Church of the Savior, Alpharetta, GA

News from the Wider Church

Support Back Bay Mission as a "Next Level" Donor

Our own Mary Ruth is serving on the Back Bay Mission (BBM) Board of Directors for a 2016-2019 term. She takes seriously her responsibility to not only share with others the great work being accomplished at BBM for the marginalized people on the Mississippi Gulf Coast but also attract donations that support









the work of strengthening neighborhoods, seeking justice and transforming lives.

She writes "the current BBM programs and staff are excellent; I am impressed with their day to day work and their attention to sustainability goals for persons who can and want to lift themselves out of poverty. This is a vibrant organization with top notch leadership and excellent board attendance at meetings from people all over the country."

Mary and her fellow Board members are seeking people who will give \$500 or more to Back Bay Mission in 2018 as a "next level" donor. Learn more about Back Bay Mission and the opportunity you have to help serve by reading Mary's article on our website.

Southwest Conference calling all UCC congregations to critical ministry 'FOR and AT the Border'

United Church of Christ churches, clergy and congregants are reaching out with hope and in faith to migrants at our borders and immigrants across the country. Many more are asking what they can do to respond to the government policies that detain and separate families. The Southwest Conference UCC, acting with Justice and Local Church Ministries, is calling each member of the denomination to build on that immigrant-welcoming effort this fall as one Church to Keep Families Together. Read more...

Training and Learning Opportunities

UCCMA Church Music Workshop in Atlanta, GA

You're invited to a daylong event for music directors, choir members,

instrumentalists, ministers, worship committee members, seminary and college students to improve skills, find inspiration and network with colleagues. It will be held on Saturday, August 25, 2018 from 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM at Virginia-Highland Church. <u>Learn more on our website</u>.



Certificate of Foundational Theology

PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc., is pleased to announce a new certificate program in Foundational Theology. This eight-course certificate will provide participants with an overview of progressive Christian theology, including courses in spirituality, faith-diversity, cultural pluralism and religion, and Christian history. All courses are conducted asynchronously online so that participants sign into the course room and participate in discussions based on their own schedule.

The certificate program is designed for members of local churches who are interested in learning more than is available in their church, those who serve in leadership roles, or anyone interested in more focused study in contemporary theology. Because courses are online, participants can sign in from anywhere in the world with high-speed internet access. Tuition is \$295 for each six-week course. For more information, visit: www.pathways-ucc.org.

PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc., is a progressive Christian learning community seeking to empower transformative leadership for justice and peace within and beyond the church by engaging heart and mind to consider what it means to know, love and serve God in today's changing

world.

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